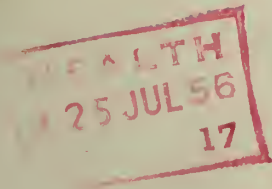


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BILLES DON

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

for the

YEAR ENDED

31st. DECEMBER 1955.



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BILLEDSON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER, 1955.

TO: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
BILLEDSON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Billesdon Rural District for the year 1955.

Again I am glad to be able to report that the health of the rural district continued to be good. The death rate remains low, 8.19 per 1,000 as against 11.7 for the whole Country.

Once again the maternal death rate has been 'NIL' but unfortunately, ~~three~~ infants under the age of one year died and there were two still births. The causes of the infant deaths can be regarded as non-preventable.

It is a pleasure to be able to report that there were no cases of Infantile Paralysis notified during 1955, and I can once again report with pride that no cases of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

There was no serious epidemic of notifiable infectious disease during the year and apart from Measles incidence of these diseases was low.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

There has been no change in the arrangements during 1955 whereby the Public Health Laboratory Service at Groby Road, Leicester undertakes the bacteriological examination of specimens submitted.

In addition to the milk, ice cream and water examinations reported upon by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, the following examinations were carried out during 1955.

Throat and Nose Swabs	...	4.
Faeces and Urine	... ..	18.
Sputa	... ..	84.
Miscellaneous	... ..	3.

Ambulance Facilities; Nursing in the Home; Maternity and Child Welfare; Child Life Protection; School Health Services.

The Leicester County Council is the responsible authority for the administration of these Services.

National Assistance Act 1948, Section 47.

No cases came to notice during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS
OF THE
BILLESDON RURAL DISTRICT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

J.Young, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.Camb.

The Medical Officer of Health acts for the
Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Districts
in which this District is included.

SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

John W.Stephenson, B.E.M., A.M.S.E.(Civ.) F.A.B.S.S., A.F.S.(Eng.),
M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.,
Certificated Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
Incorporated Engineer and Surveyor.
Architectural and Building Surveyor.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

G.E.J.Potter, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.,
Certificated Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Clerk.

Mrs.M. Allen.

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND GENERAL STATISTICS FOR 1955.

	LIVE BIRTHS.		STILLBIRTHS.		DEATHS.		DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR	
	Number.	per 1,000 population.	Number.	per 1,000 local live and still births.	Number.	per 1,000 total population.	Number.	per 1,000 related live births.
ENGLAND AND WALES.	664,711.	15.0	15,748.	23.1	518,657.	11.7	16,515.	24.9
COUNTY OF LEICESTER	5,297.	14.78	113.	20.8	3,798.	10.59	119.	22.5
BILLESDON R.D.C.	180.	18.15	2.	10.9	82.	8.19	3.	16.2

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres 49,728. Rateable Value £49,840.
 Registrar General's Estimate of Sum represented by £175.
 Population (Mid 1955) a 1d. rate.
 No. of inhabited dwellings 3,201.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, 1955.

The following is a return of the children resident in the Rural District who were immunised against Diphtheria during the year ended 31.12.55.

Year of Birth.	Primary Inoculations.	Reinforcing Inoculations.
1955.	10	-
1954.	87	-
1953.	24	-
1952.	9	-
1951.	3	4
1950.	4	50
1949.	-	21
1948.	-	2
1947.	-	2
1946.	-	2
1945.	-	-
1944.	-	1
1943.	-	-
1942.	-	1
1941.	-	-
TOTALS	137	83
Comparable Figures for 1954	71	57

The following is a return of the number of children resident in the rural district of Billesdon under the age of 15 yrs. on 31st. December, 1955 who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since the 1st,January,1941).

No. of children Born.	Year of Birth.	No.Immunised.
	1941.	58.
	1942.	70.
	1943.	98.
	1944.	115.
	1945.	26.
	1946.	92.
167.	1947.	101.
150.	1948.	105.
135.	1949.	68.
127.	1950.	91.
118.	1951.	87.
129.	1952.	76.
121.	1953.	71.
123.	1954.	90.
180.	1955.	10.
Totals 1250.	-	1158.

Diphtheria Notifications and deaths in 1955 in relation to immunisation.

Notifications.	Deaths.
Nil	Nil

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Disease	Total of Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Measles	161	-	-
Whooping Cough	24	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Dysentery	5	-	-
TOTALS	194	1	-

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

Disease	Under 1	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 45	45 - 65	65 & over	Total
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	4
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	5	37	47	67	5	-	-	-	-	161
Whooping Cough	3	7	5	9	-	-	-	-	-	24
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	5
TOTALS	9	45	53	81	5	1	-	-	-	194

DEATHS PER MONTH IN EACH PARISH

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
ALLEXTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BILLESDON	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
BURTON OVERY	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-
CARLTON CURLIEU	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COLD NEWTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTON	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
FRISBY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
GAULBY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
GOADBY	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GREAT GLEN	2	2	6	2	-	1	1	-	2	-	1	-
GREAT STRETTON	1	2	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
HOUGHTON / HILL	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
HUNGARTON	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ILLSTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
KEYHAM	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
KING'S NORTON	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LAUNDE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LITTLE STRETTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LODDINGTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LOWESBY	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
MAREFIELD	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NOSELEY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OWSTON	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
ROLLESTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SCRAPTOFT	2	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	1	-
SKEFFINGTON	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
STOUGHTON	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
THURNBY with BUSHBY	1	-	4	1	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	1
TILTON	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TUGBY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
WHATBOROUGH	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WISTOW	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
WITHCOTE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	9	8	16	7	6	2	8	5	7	3	5	8

TOTAL DEATHS, 1955

CAUSES OF DEATH	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	2
Syphilitic disease	1	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	2
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1
Diabetes	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	8
Coronary disease, angina	5	6
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1
Other heart disease	3	7
Other circulatory disease	2	3
Influenza	1	1
Pneumonia	1	-
Bronchitis	1	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Congenital malformations	2	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	3
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
All other accidents	2	-
Suicide	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-
All causes	41	41

Below is an analysis of the deaths from malignant diseases according to age groups. No information is available as to the incidence of cancer in any particular occupation :

Deaths from Cancer, 1955.

AGE GROUP.	Male.	Female.
0.		
1.		
5.		
15.		
25.	1.	
35.		
45.	1.	4.
55.		
65 and over.	2.	4.
Totals.	4.	8.

Prevention of Blindness.

No notifications of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were received during 1955.

Tuberculosis.

No action was taken in 1955 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Overleaf is a table of the new cases of tuberculosis reported during the year.

NEW CASES.

AGE GROUPS.	PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.	-	-	-	-
1.	2+	-	1	-
5.	-	1	-	-
15.	1+	-	-	-
	1			
20.	4+			1+
25.	5+	6+	-	-
35.	-	2+	-	-
45.	1	-	-	-
	1+			
55.	-	1+	-	-
65 and over.	-	-	-	-
Totals	15	10	1	1

+ Transfers from other areas.

Page 11

Page 11

GENERAL SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION.

Registrar General's Estimated
Mid-Year Population.

1953.	1954.	1955.
7,862.	8,180.	10,210.

Estimated Population at 31st. December, 1955.	11,200.
Area (Acres)	49,728.
Persons per acre (Based on mid-year figure)	0.22.
Annual Birthrate per 1,000 population.	18.15
Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population.	8.19
Births : Male - 89 Female - 91	180.
Deaths : Male - 41 Female - 41	82.
Excess of Births over Deaths.	98.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death rate per 1,000 population.	nil
Other Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 population.	.017
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 population.	.107
Pneumonia Death Rate per 1,000 population.	.008

I have the honour to be,
Your Obedient Servant,

JOHN YOUNG.

Medical Officer of Health.

1 9 5 5

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the year 1955. Housing has again had prior claim upon the time of the department, and although the number of plans considered during the year fell below the total of the previous year, the number of houses completed was more than doubled and the number of occupied dwellings in the district increased from 2,834 to 3,201.

Reference to page 10 will show the number of visits and inspections which have been made and it is very obvious that Byelaws, Planning, Council Property and the new sewerage schemes have been important matters which could not be neglected. Unfortunately, the attention given to slum clearance, all the aspects of food hygiene and petroleum installations, was inadequate and is likely to be so during the coming year.

Details are contained in the following tables of the number of planning applications which have been received and dealt with during the year. In this respect no account has been taken of re-submission of amended plans received in connection with some of the larger proposals.

PARISH	Number Received	Number Withdrawn	Refused	Appeals	Permitted	No. of Buildings Involved	Number Received	Number Withdrawn	Refused	Permitted	Appeals
Allextton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Billesdon	7	1	-	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	-
Burton Overy	8	-	-	-	8	9	2	-	-	1	-
Carlton Curlieu	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cold Newton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
East Norton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frisby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Galby	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goadby	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Glen	13	-	-	-	13	13	3	-	1	2	-
Great Stretton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Houghton-on-the-Hill	3	-	-	-	3	3	2	-	2	-	-
Hungarton	2	-	-	-	2	3	1	-	-	1	-
Illston	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Keyham	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kings Norton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Launde	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Little Stretton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loddington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lowesby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marefield	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Noseley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Owston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rolleston	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Scraptoft	36	-	-	-	36	786	6	-	2	4	1
Skeffington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stoughton	4	-	-	-	4	3	3	-	-	3	-
Thurnby & Bushby	14	-	-	-	14	66	5	-	1	4	1
Tilton	4	-	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Tugby	5	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	-
Whatborough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wistow	3	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
Withcote	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	105	1	3	1	101	897	22	-	6	15	2

The following is a summary of the plans deposited in accordance with the Building Byelaws :

Parish	No. of Plans Deposited	No. Refused	App'vd.	No. of Buildings Involved			
				Houses	Addns.& Alts.	Other Bldgs.	Total
Allextton	1	-	1	-	-	1	1
Billesdon	6	1	5	5	-	2	7
Burton Overy	8	-	8	9	-	-	9
Carlton Curlieu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cold Newton	3	1	2	1	2	1	4
East Norton	2	-	2	-	1	1	2
Frisby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Galby	1	-	1	-	1	-	1
Goadby	1	-	1	-	1	-	1
Great Glen	21	-	21	6	10	6	22
Great Stretton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Houghton-on-the-Hill	6	-	6	2	2	2	6
Hungarton	3	-	3	3	2	-	5
Illston	1	-	1	-	1	-	1
Keyham	2	-	2	-	2	-	2
Kings Norton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Launde	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Little Stretton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loddington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lowesby	4	-	4	-	7	-	7
Marefield	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Noseley	1	-	1	-	1	-	1
Owston	1	-	1	-	1	-	1
Rolleston	1	-	1	1	-	-	1
Scraptoft	66	3	63	772	7	39	818
Skeffington	2	-	2	-	2	-	2
Stoughton	3	-	3	3	-	-	3
Thurnby & Bushby	47	1	46	50	24	27	101
Tilton	3	-	3	-	2	2	4
Tugby	4	-	4	-	7	1	8
Whatborough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wistow	4	-	4	1	4	-	5
Withcote	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	191	6	185	853	77	82	1012

Comparative Figures :

New Houses
Additions & alterations
Other Buildings ...
Use of land or buildings

1953	1954	1955
775	1144	853
24	37	77
66	131	82
20	38	38
885	1350	1050

Totals

9 Refusals were issued under the Planning Acts and 6 plans rejected under the Building Byelaws.

SECTION C.

WATER.

The new 10,000 gallon storage tank on Life Hill was brought into use during the Autumn and has improved the supply to Cold Newton, Lowesby and Marefield.

At Alexton where it is proposed to enter into a joint scheme with the Uppingham R.D.C. work is expected to commence early in the new year, but no starting date is available for the Hungarton and Ilston supply schemes.

Byelaws with regard to preventing waste, undue consumption, misuse or contamination of water supplied by the Council were made and approved during the year. It is customary for these byelaws to be based upon a model published by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the approved byelaws follow this model very closely with one important exception.

This amendment provides that no service or distributing pipe in contact with the soil or distributing pipe conveying hot water shall be wrought iron or steel except where it forms part of a closed circuit from which water is not drawn or is used only for a temporary purpose.

The necessity for this requirement arises out of the corrosive quality of both the soil in the Council's water area and the nature of the water distributed through the Council's mains.

It is clear that by making this byelaw the Council has done its utmost to guard against corrosion both from within and without when approving the installation of water pipes. This will protect the Ratepayer from early and costly replacements and the Council from excessive waste through corroded service and distribution pipes.

It continues to be necessary to carry water periodically to the two Swedish houses at Hungarton.

SAMPLES.

A total of 18 samples were submitted for examination with the following results :

Bacteriological Examination.

Type of Water.	No. of Samples.	Results.	
		Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.
Main	-	-	-
Raw	17.	11.	6.

Chemical Analysis.

Type of Water.	No. of Samples.	Results.	
		Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.
Main.	-	-	-
Raw.	1.	1.	-

It has not been necessary to take any action in regard to waters liable to plumbo solvent action.

The following table indicates particulars of water supply in relation to households:

Internal Mains Water Supply.		Mains water from external standpipes.		Supplies from Springs, wells, etc.	
No. of Dwellings.	Population. (Approx.)	No. of Dwellings.	Population. (Approx.)	No. of Dwellings.	Population (Approx.)
2490.	9652.	35.	59.	676.	1489.

In 12 instances main water was substituted for well or spring water.

FLOODING.

Fortunately the River Sence did not overflow its banks and flood Great Glen on as many occasions as during the previous year.

Nevertheless, the residents pressed the Council to secure some improvement of the River in order to ensure a reasonable freedom from the repeated flooding experienced in past years. Therefore, in conjunction with the County Council a site meeting was arranged with representatives of the River Board in an effort to persuade the board to declare the Sence to be a "main river" and undertake the necessary work. The official outcome of this meeting is still not known.

Comparative rainfall figures for the years 1953, 1954 and 1955 will be of interest and although they may not be absolutely accurate as far as the Billesdon district is concerned, have been kindly supplied by Gordon J. Wootton Esq., M.I.Mun.E., M.R.San.I., Engineer and Surveyor, Wigston U.D.C.

They are as follows:

Month.	1953.	1954.	1955.
January.	1.05	1.05	1.69
February.	1.28	2.42	1.61
March.	1.64	1.93	2.39
April.	2.18	.40	.95
May.	1.58	2.06	3.53
June.	2.64	2.42	3.24
July.	2.11	2.76	1.09
August.	2.80	3.69	1.34
September.	1.38	2.17	1.13
October.	2.50	2.85	1.48
November.	1.86	4.98	1.15
December.	.80	2.45	2.51
Totals	21.82	29.18	22.11 inches.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

This has been another busy year with sewerage schemes in Scraftoft, Thurnby and Bushby being completed. Cesspools and pail closets have now been largely abolished in these villages, being aided by a Grant from the Council.

These Grants, which have been very popular with the majority of property owners, have assisted in the rapid abolition of offensive cesspools and pail closets and greatly improved the environmental hygiene in these areas.

Work commenced in laying new sewers in Stoughton and also in Billesdon and Tilton-on-the-Hill and a substantial portion of the work was completed during the year.

No progress was made with the scheme to provide new sewers at Keyham and the progress in providing this essential amenity in the villages throughout the district should not be allowed to die out.

Since the war, overflowing cesspools, pail closets, polluted ditches and streams have been almost entirely eliminated in seven villages, but there remain other villages with crude and unsatisfactory methods of sewage disposal - in one village the open septic tank is in the grass verge by the side of the public highway.

Conservancy.

The following figures show a gradual increase in the number of houses served by W.Cs. and a corresponding reduction in the number of cesspools and pail closets :

No. of privies in the district	...	...	...	...	4.
No. of pail closets in the district	...	...	...	...	581.
No. of W.C's in the district	...	...	...	...	2400.

No. of closets converted to W.C's during the year	...	...	...	...	83.
No. of cesspools constructed during the year	...	...	...	...	13.
No. of cesspools abolished during the year	...	...	...	...	91.
No. of cesspools in the district	...	...	...	...	324.

Pail closets continue to be emptied weekly and cesspools as regularly as possible with a six-weekly service as the target.

Routine continued to be disjointed by re-routing vehicles at a moment's notice to empty cesspools where a builder was in process of making a sewer connection, but in the long run this temporary inconvenience was well worth while.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Some difficulty was experienced in maintaining the weekly collection of refuse at the beginning of the year owing to delay in delivery of two new collection vehicles. However, when these two vehicles were received, the system quickly settled down and with the exception of short periods when labour difficulties interrupted, the service provided for householders proved regular and efficient.

However, houses were being completed and occupied at the rate of more than one a day and towards the end of the year it was necessary to place on order a further refuse collection vehicle for delivery on January 1st. 1956.

Plans of the new depot in a portion of the grounds of the Council Offices were prepared and the work of erecting this building was well under way at the close of the year.

The lease of a disused gravel pit at Skeffington was secured for the purpose of disposing of refuse by a system of "controlled" tipping. By this method, the refuse is placed in shallow layers and covered with soil in order to prevent nuisances arising and to reclaim the land for future agricultural use in an orderly and neat fashion.

In order to follow this method satisfactorily using only manual labour would have involved the employment of a number of men and after examining several mechanical appliances adapted for use on refuse tips, a hydraulic loading shovel was purchased. This vehicle and one operator will be capable of excavating soil, placing the refuse correctly and covering with soil to the required depth. It has the advantage too of being sufficiently weighty to use as a roller to consolidate the deposited refuse.

Refuse collection is the service provided by the Council of which the public are most aware and some remarks about its cost would not be out of place. Each year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government publishes a statistical report based upon Costing Returns which local authorities render to them. The figures for 1955 are not yet published but I can give a number of items listed in the 1954 Report together with the comparable figures for this district.

These figures show that the average cost of refuse collection and disposal per 1,000 of population over the whole range of authorities to which the Ministry's returns relate was £559 in 1954. The cost per 1,000 of population in the Billesdon district during the same year was £421 which is approximately equivalent to 1.9d. per person per week. The cost per person per week during 1955 averages out at almost exactly 2d. - a very small price indeed for the provision of such an important public health service.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

Assistance Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	565.
Closet Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	111.
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	118.
Sewage Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	321.
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49.
Stables and Piggeries.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Animals kept as to be a nuisance.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Moveable dwellings.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21.
Factories - with power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.
Factories, non-power.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Outworkers.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.
Workplaces.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Shops Act.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Rodent Control.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	135.
Petroleum Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.
Building Byelaws	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1841.
Town Planning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94.
Streams and Brooks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33.
Rights of Way	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	222.

HOUSING.

Initial Inspections. Public Health Act.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.
Revisits.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38.
Initial Inspections. Housing Act.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	255.
Revisits.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.
Improvement Grants.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	218.
Initial Inspections - Filthy & Verminous Premises.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.
Revisits.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.
Visits - Council Cottages.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	595.
Miscellaneous.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Visits for disinfection.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.
Other Visits.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.

FOOD PREMISES.

Slaughter Houses.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.
Butchers.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.
Fishmongers.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Bakehouses.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Dairies.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Visits to collect milk samples.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76.
Restaurants and Cafes.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Ice Cream Premises.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.
Licensed Premises.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.
Other Food Premises.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.
Grocers and Confectioners.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Hospital Kitchens.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Miscellaneous.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23.

TOTAL

4935.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector for the purposes of provisions as to health :

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.	22	5	-	-
11. Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by local authority.	17	-	-	-
111. Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by local authority (excluding out-workers premises.)	26	-	-	-
Totals	65	5	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found :

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness.	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation.	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	1	-	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	-	-	1	-

3. Outwork.

Nature of Work.	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)
Wearing Apparel (making etc.)	17.
Total	17.

HOUSING.

The call upon time for other and urgent day to day duties is reflected upon the small amount of work done during the year in connection with Slum Clearance.

Based upon the Housing Survey made in the immediate postwar years, the slum clearance return required by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government showed my estimated number of unfit houses to be 80, which should be dealt with during the next five years.

The inspection of properties progressed very slowly and only one village, Burton Overy, has been completed.

In this village, 96 houses were surveyed and 5 found to be unfit and incapable of repair at reasonable expense. The following is a summary of the sanitary conditions :

Mains Water	-	Inside	...	...	83
	-	Individual Standpipe			1
	-	Standpipe shared	...		4 (sharing 1 tap)
Pump Water		...	...	...	1
No water supply		...	...	...	1
Inside W.C.		...	...	...	37
Outside W.C.		...	...	...	45
Outside W.C. shared		...	...	...	2 (sharing 1 W.C.)
Drainage to sewer		...	...	...	77
		cesspool	...	...	7
		ditch	...	...	5
Hot water systems		...	...	...	34
Pail closets		...	...	...	4
"	shared	...	...	...	2 (sharing 1 closet)
Overcrowding		...	...	...	None

The healthy housing of the rural population does not solely depend upon the replacement of defective property by new Council Houses. The repair of old houses structurally sound and the improvement of suitable houses with the aid of financial grants will also do much towards an improved standard of housing.

(a) No. of applications for Improvement Grant	...	30
(b) No. of applications approved	...	27
(c) No. of applications refused	...	3

The following is information regarding housing in the rural district in the form asked for by the Ministry :-

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	327
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	589
(2) (a)	Number of dwellin-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932... ..	104
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	130
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	76

CLEARANCE AREAS. (Housing Act, 1936 & Housing Repairs & Rents Act, 1954.)

	No. of dwelling-houses demolished in the period.	No. of persons displaced.
	Unfit Houses.	Other Houses.
(1) Land coloured pink and pink hatched yellow.	-	-
(2) Land coloured grey.	-	-

HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS.

Houses demolished or closed in the period	Number of	
	Houses.	Persons Dis.
(1) <u>Housing Act, 1936.</u>		
(a) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)	-	-
(b) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	-	-
(c) Parts of building closed (Section 12)	-	-
(2) <u>Housing Act, 1949.</u>		
Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2)	-	-

REPAIRS in the period

	No. of Houses.
(4) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts.	6.
(5) Public Health Acts - action after service of formal notice - Houses in which defects were remedied	
(a) By owners	4.
(b) By local authority in default of owners	-
(6) Housing Act, 1936 - action after service of formal notice Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16.	
Houses made fit	
(a) By owners	-
(b) By local authority in default of owners	-
(7) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.	
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5)	-

UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE. (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.)

Position at end of period.	<u>Number of Houses.</u>
(8) (a) Houses retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7	-
(b) Separate dwellings contained in (a) above	-
(c) Houses licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6)	-

PURCHASES OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT.

Number of Houses.

(9) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the period.	-
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HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING :-

(a) (1) No. of dwellings overcrowded at end of year.	}	None Discovered.
(2) No. of families dwelling therein.		
(3) No. of persons dwelling therein.		
(b) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during year.		-
(2) No. of persons concerned in such cases		-
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding		-
(e) Any other particulars with respect to <u>general housing conditions</u> on which the Sanitary Inspector may consider it desirable to report.		-

MEAT INSPECTION.

Whilst it has not been possible to inspect 100% of the animals slaughtered, as many as possible of the carcasses and organs of the animals killed at the three slaughterhouses in the district were examined.

	Beasts.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed.	106	208	104
Number Inspected.	50	101	55
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>			
(a) Whole carcasses condemned.	-	3	1
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	10	-	15
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	20%	3%	29%
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u>			
(a) Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	2
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	3.6%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>			
(a) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-
(b) Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-
(c) Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Particulars of the results of biological samples taken are shown below :

Number Taken.	Results of Biological Examination.		
	Satisfactory.	Evidence of living tubercle bacilli.	Evidence of Brucella Abortus.
87.	85.	-	2.

86 samples of milk were also taken and submitted to bacteriological examination and with two exceptions were found to be satisfactory.

The number of Dairymen registered on 31st. December, 1955 is as follows:

Dairies registered.	...	...	...	-
Distributors registered.	...	...	...	4
No. of producer retailers in district.	...	...	...	7

Dealers licences.

Accredited.	...	...	...	...	-
Pasteurised.	...	...	...	...	-
Sterilized.	...	...	...	...	-
Tuberculin Tested.	...	...	...	...	-

Supplementary Licences.

Accredited.	...	...	...	...	-
Pasteurised.	...	...	...	...	3
Sterilized.	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculin Tested.	...	...	...	...	1

The most important event during the year was the declaration that the whole of the District was to become "Specified" meaning that only bottled designated "T.T." or "Pasteurised" milk may be sold.

It was found however, that a retailer of designated milk could not be found for Owston and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food therefore are allowing undesignated milk to be sold in this village.

ICE CREAM.

Four samples of Ice Cream were submitted to the laboratory for examination and each attained satisfactory results, as did also two iced lollies submitted.

1955 saw a new Food and Drugs Act on the statute book designed to bring legislation in this important field into line with modern developments in food technology and the habit of eating away from home in canteens and restaurants.

The old provisions relating to rooms where food intended for humans ~~was~~ prepared have been repealed and the Minister given power to make regulations of a much wider nature, as follows :

- (a) for imposing requirements as to the construction, layout, drainage, equipment, maintenance, cleanliness, ventilation, lighting, water-supply and use, of premises in, at or from which food is sold for human consumption, or offered, exposed, stored or prepared for sale, for human consumption (including any parts of such premises in which apparatus and utensils are cleansed, or in which refuse is disposed of or stored.);
- (b) for imposing requirements as to the provision, maintenance and cleanliness of sanitary and washing facilities in connection with such premises, the disposal of refuse and the maintenance and cleanliness of apparatus, equipment, furnishings and utensils used in such premises, and in particular for imposing requirements that every sanitary convenience situated in such premises shall be supplied with water through a suitable flushing appliance;
- (c) for prohibiting or regulating the use of any specified materials, or of materials of any specified class, in the manufacture of apparatus or utensils designed for use in the preparation of food for human consumption, and the sale or importation for sale of apparatus or utensils designed for such use and containing any specified materials, or materials of any specified class;
- (d) for prohibiting spitting on premises where food is sold for human consumption, or offered, exposed, stored or prepared for sale for human consumption (including any parts of such premises where apparatus and utensils are cleansed);
- (e) for imposing requirements as to the clothing worn by persons in such premises;
- (f) for securing the inspection of animals intended for slaughter, and of carcasses of animals, for the purpose of ascertaining whether meat intended for sale for human consumption is fit for such consumption;
- (g) for requiring the staining or sterilization in accordance with the regulations of meat which is unfit for human consumption, or which is derived from animals slaughtered in knackers' yards or from carcasses brought into knackers' yards, or which, though not unfit for human consumption, is not intended therefor;
- (h) for regulating generally the treatment and disposal of any food unfit for human consumption;
- (j) for prohibiting or regulating, or enabling local authorities to prohibit or regulate, the sale for human consumption, or the offer, exposure or distribution for sale for human consumption, of shellfish taken from beds or other layings for the time being designated by or under the regulations.

These regulations running to thirty four articles have been made to come into force on the 1st. January, 1956, and amongst other obvious requirements for the cleanliness of premises, equipment and clothing require that persons handling unwrapped food must refrain from spitting and the use of tobacco including snuff.

There are included too, requirements regarding the sale of food from stalls, tents, mobile canteens and vehicles, for instance -

they must bear conspicuously the name and address of the person carrying on the business and must be kept clean and in good order and repair, and provided with suitable and sufficient means of lighting. If meat, game, poultry or fish is sold the stall or vehicle (if not in an enclosed and covered market place) must be suitably covered and be screened at the sides and back and a sufficient number of suitably covered receptacles constructed of impervious material shall be provided for waste trimmings, refuse and rubbish. As from 1st. July, 1956, in connection with every food business carried on from a stall or vehicle which consists wholly or partly of the supply of unwrapped food for immediate consumption, there must be provided -

- (a) an adequate supply of clean hot and cold water or hot water at a suitably controlled temperature ;
- (b) adequate supplies of soap, nail brushes and clean towels;
- (c) suitable and sufficient sinks or other facilities for washing food and equipment together with soap or suitable detergent and clean cloths.

These regulations must be borne in mind by all persons organising fetes, garden parties and the like.

There is no doubt that these regulations will enable local authorities to secure improvement in many food handling premises. There remains, however, the problem of instilling good food hygiene practice into the kitchen of every household throughout the Country. The housewife may purchase food prepared by careful and conscientious manufacturers in spotlessly clean premises. She must emulate this care and concern for her family's well being if the efforts of sanitarians and the food industry are to be wholly successful.

ERADICATION OF PESTS.

Very little organised survey work has been possible under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 other than a complete survey of Burton Overy which was done at the same time as the Housing Survey.

Treatments have been carried out whenever the Refuse Tip, sewage dykes or sewers gave any evidence of infestation.

CAMP SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

No licences for camping sites were issued during the year. A number of applications were however received from individuals to station and use caravans within the district, as follows :

No. of applications received	...	...	...	6.
No. of licences issued	...	...	...	6.
No. of applications withdrawn	...	...	...	-
No. of applications refused	...	...	...	1.
No. of appeals to Justices	...	...	...	1.
No. of prosecutions for using a caravan without licence			...	-

The number of caravans in your district, by parishes, is shown by the following table :

Great Glen	...	1.	Keyham	...	1.
Tilton	...	...	1.	Scraptoft	3.
Carlton Curlieu	...	1.			

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

One fresh water swimming pool is available in the district.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action has been necessary during the year.

In what has been a very full and quite frequently harassing year I must thank the Council for their continued support and backing.

I appreciate too assistance freely given by the Council's Officers and in particular my own staff, which has worked loyally and to capacity.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

John W. Stephenson.

Surveyor & Chief Sanitary Inspector.

